



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

LEWISIA PYGMAEA VAR NEVADENSIS

NEVADA BITTERROOT

Nevada Bitterroot is a low, glabrous perennial with several leafless stems that are 1-8 cm high and arising from a fleshy, usually unbranched rootcrown. The numerous, succulent, linear-oblong basal leaves are up to 15 cm long and surpass the flower stems. There are 2 opposite, narrowly lance-shaped leaves surrounding the stem at mid-height, and there is a solitary flower on top. Each flower has 2 elliptic, pointed, entire-margined sepals that are 5-10 mm long, 5-9 white to deep pink petals that are 6-17 mm long, and 4-12 stamens. The fruit is a globose capsule with 1-5 dark brown seeds, and 5 10 mm long. Flowering late May-July.

LEWISIA PYGMAEA VAR PYGMAEA has more linear leaves, lacks basal leaves, and has sepals with rounded tips and glandular-toothed margins. CLAYTONIA MEGARHIZA has more spoon-shaped leaves and a many-flowered inflorescence.